

26 April 1949

TO: DOPC

FROM:

SUBJECT: Training in Investigative Techniques

1. Reference is made to the memorandum of [REDACTED] TRS, having the above title and concerning which you asked for my comments.

2. I am in complete agreement with the basic idea of this training program on the theory that while each Operations Officer cannot be an expert in all lines of investigative technique due to personal characteristics and the fact that adequate training cannot be provided at this time, each should be thoroughly indoctrinated with respect to the techniques in order to direct others in their use and guard against them.

3. With respect to the suggested program as outlined in the schedule attached to the memorandum, I would suggest that a selection be made of those techniques which are most likely to be encountered by the ordinary field station operator and that the training be concentrated as much as possible on these aspects of the problem even if the others risk being slighted. While all of the techniques may be at some time used by persons in the organization, I feel that to get the most value from the training the average Operations Officer should be given more work on some items than on others because such items are more frequently encountered.

4. I would like to suggest that some provision be made to permit certain officers to become particularly expert in one or two of the investigative techniques. While it is realized that every Operations Officer either has the desire or capability of becoming expert in one line, there are many who because of personal characteristics, hobbies, etc., could, with a good training program, become very proficient in the lines which interest them. If such specialized training is afforded the appropriate individuals over a period of years there will develop throughout the organization a good number of Operations Officers who will become

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By: 826

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extremely proficient in some techniques, and I believe this fact may be used to considerable advantage. However, if we approach the problem solely on the theory that each man should be a jack-of-all-trades and master of none, we will miss the opportunity of giving the unusual man the break which he needs which will add considerably to his value to the organization.

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